

WHAT DOES GREAT FAITH LOOK LIKE?
An “Unclean Gentile Dog” with a Cleansed Heart
Matthew 15:21-28

- I. GREAT FAITH IS IN THE PERSON OF JESUS AS REVEALED IN HIS WORD: A Canaanite woman petitions the Lord to heal her demon possessed daughter (21-22)**

- II. GREAT FAITH INCLUDES A RECOGNITION OF ONE TOTAL INABILITY AND CHRIST’S TOTAL SUFFICIENCY: The woman petitions for His mercy and help (22, 25b)**

- III. GREAT FAITH IS NOT QUENCHED BY A LACK OF RESPONSE BY GOD, BUT IS HUMBLY AND REVERENTLY PERSISTENT (23-25)**
 - A. Jesus does not respond to the woman, thus testing her persistence (23a)

 - B. Jesus responds to the disciple’s request, testing them, revealing He acts according to the revealed will of God, which is to go to Israel first (23b-24)

 - C. The woman humbly and reverently continues her persistent request of the Lord (25)

- IV. GREAT FAITH IS NOT PRESUMPTIVE OR OFFENDED BY GOD’S WORD, INSTEAD IT ACKNOWLEDGES AND RESPONDS SUBMISSIVELY AND WISELY TO IT (26-27)**
 - A. Jesus using a play on words answers the woman’s request revealing His will (26)

 - B. The woman amazingly acknowledges God's sovereign will yet wisely petitions accordingly to His Word: She acknowledges her lower position as a Gentile yet one who is still in the Master’s family (27)

- V. THE RESULT OF GREAT FAITH IN CHRIST: The Lord grants her petition and heals her daughter (28)**